

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1 (Currently amended). A tuning circuit comprising:
a voltage controlled oscillator for generating a first clock signal comprising:
an inductive element;
a variable capacitive element coupled to the inductive element;
a bank of switched capacitors coupled to the inductive element and the variable capacitive element;
a frequency divider for generating a second clock signal responsive to the first clock signal and a selected divisor;
frequency control circuitry for adjusting a control voltage to the variable capacitive element responsive to a frequency difference between the second clock signal and a reference signal to oscillate the first clock signal at a desired frequency; and
logic circuitry for calibrating the voltage controlled oscillator to a frequency range inclusive of a new desired frequency responsive to a change in the divisor by:
performing a coarse search by operating the voltage controlled oscillator at a single predetermined control voltage for various capacitive settings of the bank to determine an initial control word for configuring the bank; and
testing the initial control word to determine whether the initial control word should be used to generate the first clock signal at the new desired frequency or whether the initial control word should be changed to an adjacent control word to generate the first clock signal at the new desired frequency.

2 (Original). The tuning circuit of claim 1 wherein said logic circuitry determines an initial control word to configure the bank by using a search having an accuracy that is greater than or equal to ± 1 least significant bit of the initial control word.

3 (Previously presented). The tuning circuit of claim 1 wherein the logic circuitry tests the initial control word by comparing the desired frequency to upper and lower bounds of a frequency range for the voltage controlled oscillator while configured according to the initial control word.

4 (Previously presented). The tuning circuit of claim 3 wherein the logic circuitry determines the initial control word using fast comparisons between an actual frequency at the predetermined control voltage and the desired frequency and determines whether the initial control word should remain the same by using more precise comparisons between the actual frequency and the desired frequency.

5 (Previously presented). The tuning circuit of claim 1 wherein the logic circuitry tests the initial control word by determining whether the difference between the desired frequency and an actual frequency for the voltage controlled oscillator while configured according to the initial control word is within a predetermined threshold.

6 (Original). The tuning circuit of claim 5 wherein an indication of the actual frequency is determined by counting clock cycles from the voltage controlled oscillator in a frequency divider circuit.

7 (Currently amended). A method of calibrating a voltage controlled oscillator for generating a first clock signal, the voltage control oscillator having an LC tank with an inductive element, a variable capacitive element coupled to the inductive element, where the capacitance of the variable capacitive element is controlled by a control voltage, and a bank of switched capacitors coupled to the inductive element and the variable capacitive element, comprising the steps of:

determining an initial control word to configure the bank using a search in which the voltage controlled oscillator is operated at a single predetermined control voltage for various capacitive settings of the bank; and

testing the initial control word to determine whether the frequency range produced by the initial control word should be used to generate the first clock signal at

the new desired frequency or whether the initial control word should be changed to an adjacent control word to generate the first clock signal at the new desired frequency.

8 (Previously presented). The method of claim 7 wherein said step of determining an initial control word comprises the step of determining an initial control word to configure the bank by using a search having an accuracy that is greater than or equal to ± 1 least significant bit of the initial control word.

9 (Previously presented). The method of claim 7 wherein the step of testing the initial control word comprises the step of comparing the desired frequency to upper and lower bounds of a frequency range for the voltage controlled oscillator while configured according to the initial control word.

10 (Previously presented). The method of claim 9 wherein the step of determining the initial control word comprises the step of using fast comparisons between an actual frequency at the predetermined control voltage and the desired frequency and wherein the step of determining whether the initial control word should remain the same comprises the step of using more precise comparisons between the actual frequency and the desired frequency.

11 (Previously presented). The method of claim 7 wherein the step of testing the initial control word comprises the step of determining whether the difference between the desired frequency and an actual frequency for the voltage controlled oscillator while configured according to the initial control word is within a predetermined threshold.

12 (Original). The method of claim 7 wherein the step of determining whether the difference between the desired frequency and an actual frequency is within a predetermined threshold comprises the step of calculating an indication of the actual frequency by counting clock cycles from the voltage controlled oscillator in a frequency divider circuit.